

App. No. 09/682,627
Amendment dated June 21, 2004
Reply to Office action of January 21, 2004

REMARKS

Summary of Amendments

Claims 14, 17, 18, 22, 25, 28, 32, 34 and 36 have been canceled. Claims 15, 19, 20, 26, 29, 30, 31, 33 and 35 have been amended to revise the dependency in each of these claims.

Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29-31, 33 and 35 are pending in this application.

Claim Objections

Claims 25, 29-34 and 36 were objected to for improper dependency recitations. Claims 25, 32, 34 and 36 have been canceled, and the dependency of claims 29-31, 33 and 35 has been amended into what is believed to be proper form.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12-24, 26-28 and 35 again stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for claiming subject matter that lacks "credible" utility. No other rejections remain to be addressed in this application.

Claims 14, 17, 18, 22, 25, 28, 32, 34 and 36—claims which it is believed led to the rejection under this section for lacking "credible" utility—have been canceled.

The remaining claims set forth a device—and straightforward methods of using that device—whose structure is believed to be patentable over the prior art of record in this case.

As to utility of the pending claims, it is respectfully submitted that even a placebo effect at minimum would be sufficient as grounds that the present invention has utility.

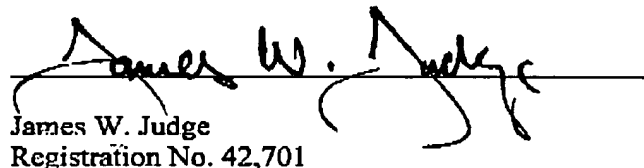
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A response to this Office Action was due by April 21, 2004, and consequently a Petition for Extension of Time, along with a credit-card payment authorization form, is attached hereto. Please consider this Amendment as timely filed.

Accordingly, Applicant courteously urges that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is requested. Favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

JUDGE PATENT FIRM
Rivière Shukugawa 3rd Fl.
3-1 Wakamatsu-cho
Nishinomiya-shi, Hyogo 662-0035
JAPAN
Telephone: 800-784-6272
Facsimile: 425-944-5136
e-mail: jj@judgepat.jp